



# SAFEnet

Spring Issue 2011

## STUDENT'S 'KEEPING IT SAFE'

**Rachel Soberman, Thomas S. Wootton High School**



The Keeping it Safe Team's, *Student's Keeping it Safe*, highlights a student or group who is making a positive impact on the community. The Keeping it Safe team will recognize each month an individual or group, between the grade levels of 6th and 12th.

Spring's 2011 *Student's Keeping it Safe* is **Rachel Soberman from Thomas S. Wootton High School**. Rachel is currently an intern for the Montgomery County Police Department where she assists the department with many tasks. Rachel works with databases for underage drinking and DUI's. She has also assisted the police department with community presentations and setting up classes for officers and prosecutors. Rachel also is involved with traffic monitoring at local high schools on seat belt and cell phone use among young drivers.

*Continued on Page 3*

## Newsletter Highlights



**Get Local!**  
**What's Happening in**  
**Montgomery County and**  
**Maryland**



**Tips... Stats... Signs...**



**In the News**

## Questions?

Montgomery County community members can email related questions and receive updated prevention information. Please email: [safenet@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:safenet@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Tell a friend about SAFEnet and have them send an email to [safenet@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:safenet@montgomerycountymd.gov) with the subject line "SIGN ME UP"

To unsubscribe, please send email to [SAFEnet@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:SAFEnet@montgomerycountymd.gov) with the subject line "UNSUBSCRIBE ME"

Keeping it Safe is a Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control Public Education Campaign. This campaign outreaches to both the hospitality industry and the community on youth alcohol prevention and responsible alcohol service.

*Seperate from these efforts, is a volunteer coalition, also known as the Keeping it Safe (KIS) Coalition aimed at preventing under 21 alcohol use.*

## KEEPING IT SAFE

**SAFEline**- Call **301-670-SAFE** to request information on hosting under 21 alcohol free events or to report an upcoming under 21 alcohol party, event, or provider.

To report a party in progress, call the non-emergency police line at 301-289-8000.

For more information on state laws, consequences, or to order materials on Keeping it Safe, please contact the Department of Liquor Control Outreach Office, 240-777-1989, or e-mail [dlc@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:dlc@montgomerycountymd.gov).

## Montgomery County Project Prom/ Graduation

The Montgomery County Project Prom/ Graduation will meet on March 16, April 27 and June 6 at the Montgomery County Public Schools Board of Education Building, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850. All meetings begin at 7:30 PM.

Meetings cover strategies of organizing an all night after prom event for high school youth. During the April 27th meeting, all after prom coordinators receive training from a Montgomery County police officer who is an alcohol enforcement specialist and drug recognition expert addressing the indicators of impairment, current teen trends, and provisional drivers license laws.

All meetings are open to the public. For further information contact 301-515-7100 or visit [www.mcppg.org](http://www.mcppg.org).

## Keeping it Safe Contest and Community Awards Recognition

On Friday April 29th at 9 AM The Contest and Community Awards Recognition Event will be held at the Executive Office Building Auditorium, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD 20850. This event is open to family and friends. Contest winners will receive a cash prize and trophy for their group.

## Limousine Company Training

The Limousine Company Training will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at the Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control, 16650 Crabbs Branch Way, Rockville, MD 20855.

This training is to prepare limousine company's for the prom and graduation season. The training will cover alcohol laws, indicators of impairment, current teen trends and best practices. For a list of limousine company's that attend this training, please contact Meg Baker at 240-777-6652.

## Enter in WRAP's 2011 GEICO Student Awards Contest

This is an opportunity for Greater Washington high school student groups to demonstrate their student leadership in both developing and executing activities that promote alcohol and drug-free lifestyles to their peers.

For more information including criteria and application, please call 703-893-0461 or email [marcela@wrap.org](mailto:marcela@wrap.org).

Deadline for submissions is March 15, 2011.

## Thinking of Hosting an Underage Party at Your House?

**Know the Consequences if Alcohol is Involved!**

**Adult Host Responsibility** is a Maryland Law that holds an adult who knowingly and intentionally serves an alcoholic beverage to a person he/she knows, or reasonably should know, it under the age of 21, liable for the person served and to any other person for damages resulting from the host's service of alcohol. It can even extend to adults and homeowners who are not on the premise and/or did not provide alcohol.

### State Laws & Consequences...

- Buying, furnishing or allowing youth under the age of 21 to consume or possess alcohol is illegal. Adults are civilly and legally liable.
- Adults could receive a \$2500 fine for the first offense, a \$5000 fine for the second offense. An offense counts as ONE under 21 drinker, additional underage drinkers can count as additional offenses.
- Servers/sellers of alcohol are required to protect an intoxicated person from harming themselves or others. A server will be liable if negligence is proven.
- Homeowner and auto insurance companies may drop a policy.
- Home or not home, aware or unaware of the party, you could be sued for:
  - personal injury
  - alcohol poisoning
  - sexual assault
  - vandalism
  - violence
  - car crashes: death, injuries, or car damage

For more information on Adult Host Responsibility contact the Outreach Office at 240-777-1904

## Did you Know?

**65% of kids who drink report getting alcohol from family & friends!**

## Attention Parents:

### Setting Good Examples around Alcohol

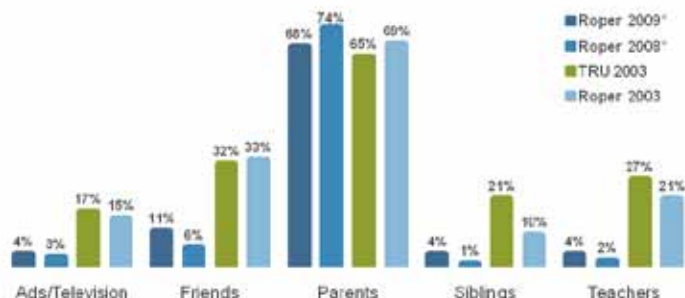
How you respond to situations that include alcohol, especially when your children are around, sends a very strong message. Make sure to think about your actions related to drinking and the repercussions they may have.

- When you talk about alcohol, avoid statements that make it sound necessary or especially fun (don't say things like "After the day I've had, I could use a martini!" around your kids).
- Model restraint in your own life—if you choose to drink, do so responsibly. If you or your partner struggles with alcohol abuse, seek professional help from a physician or addiction counselor.
- Don't laugh at or glorify the actions of people who have had too much to drink—even those on television or in movies.
- If you choose to consume alcohol, be prepared to answer when your kids ask why they can't. Keep your answer simple, such as "Alcohol isn't good for growing bodies and minds."
- Always offer plenty of nonalcoholic drink options when you entertain in your home to show your kids that grown-ups don't need alcohol to have fun together.
- Set a good example for your children when attending holiday parties; just because it's New Year's Eve or the Fourth of July doesn't mean you should drink excessively.

Whether you realize it or not, your kids are watching everything you do, and learning from it. By making sure that your actions around alcohol are responsible, you can send a positive message to your child long before he or she is forced to make a decision about using it.

Source: [www.parentfurther.com](http://www.parentfurther.com)

Parents Have the Most Influence on Whether or Not Their Child Will Drink Alcohol



Source: TRU Oninbuzz (10-18 year olds); Roper Youth Report (8-17 year olds)  
\*In 2000 and 2009 the respondents could only select one response for this question. Previous years surveys allowed multiple responses to this question.

# ALCOHOL 101

## Student's Keeping It Safe

**Rachel Soberman**  
Thomas S. Wootton High School

*Continued from page 1*

### 1. Why do you think your group is a positive influence on today's youth?

As an intern with the Montgomery County Police at SOD, getting things done and helping people is what I try to do. I am learning a lot of new things with the department, all that are put to good use for the community.

### 2. What do you believe will make a difference in underage drinking (parents, teachers, educating, programs)?

I think mandatory education programs will help, something that is required to take, like drivers education is required to get a license. Parents could also help with educating their kids in the younger adolescent stage like middle school. Showing kids the worse possible scenarios or real life stories would also help kids understand better the dangers of underage drinking.

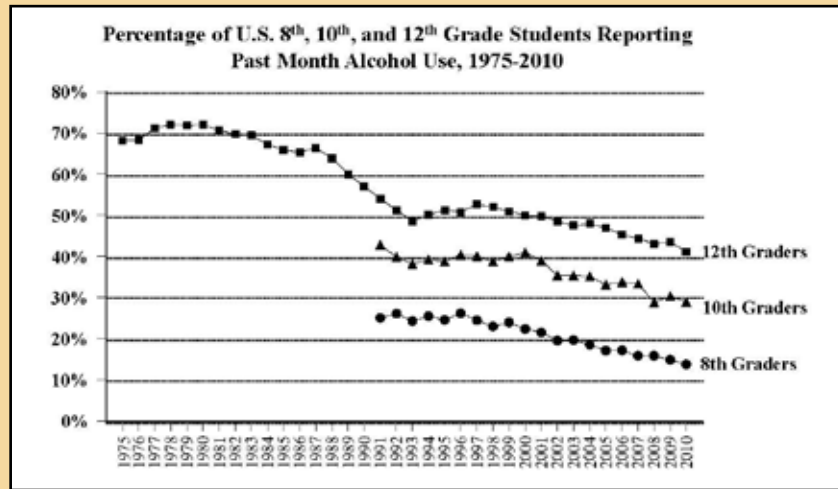
### 3. What are your future goals?

After graduating from Wootton High School, I will be attending Butler University and will be studying Psychology and Criminal Justice.

## Past Month Alcohol Use Among U.S. 8th, 10th, and 12th Graders Reaches Record Low

The percentage of 8th, 10th, and 12th graders reporting past month use of alcohol reached record lows in 2010, according to data from the national Monitoring the Future study.

Less than one-half (41.2%) of 12th graders reported drinking at least one sip of alcohol in the past month in 2010, compared to the peak prevalence of 72.1% in 1978. Past month prevalence rates among 8th (13.8%) and 10th (28.9%) graders are also at the lowest levels since these grades were first included in the study in 1991 (see figure below). In addition, binge drinking, drinking five or more drinks in a row at least once in the two weeks prior to the survey—also continues to decrease in all three grades (data not shown). For example, 23.2% of 12th graders reported binge drinking in 2010, compared to the peak of 41.4% in 1981.



Source: Cesar

## Privatizing Liquor Sales Results in More Alcohol-Related Deaths: New Research

Private liquor stores are certainly more convenient than the government outlets, since they open longer hours and there are many more of them, but they are also harming our health. That is according to new research on privatization of the BC liquor market conducted by the University of Victoria's Centre for Addictions Research (CARBC) and the Prevention Research Center in Berkeley, California.

The report, entitled Impact on alcohol-related mortality of a rapid rise in the density of private liquor outlets in British Columbia: A local area multi-level analysis, is published today in the international journal Addiction. It examines the impact of a dramatic increase in numbers of private liquor stores operating in British Columbia, Canada, since 2003. A number of US jurisdictions are currently considering privatizing government control systems for the retail distribution of alcohol, including Pennsylvania, Washington, Virginia, Ohio and North Carolina. Alberta has already fully privatized, Québec partially and the issue of privatization regularly surfaces in public debate in other Canadian provinces.

The study examined 20 types of alcohol-related death including liver disease, strokes, cancers, injuries and suicide in 89 local health areas of British Columbia during a rapid rise in the number of private liquor stores between 2003 and 2008. The number of non-government liquor stores increased by 40.3 per cent to 977 while government store numbers decreased by 10.4 per cent to 199. The study found that areas with more stores in private rather than government hands had significantly higher rates of alcohol-related deaths involving local residents. In fact, there was a 27.5 per cent increase in alcohol-related deaths for every extra private liquor store per 1,000 British Columbians.

Source: University of Victoria (British Columbia, Canada)

